

1 --34. The method of claim 26, wherein positioning the peripheral input device includes
2 positioning a mouse.--

1 --35. The method of claim 26, wherein positioning the peripheral input device includes
2 positioning a pointer displayed by the computer.--

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on July 18, 2000, claims 1, 4, 5, 10-12, 15-17, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ueda; and claims 2-9, 13, 14 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueda in view of Lundberg. The rejections of the claims are addressed in the corresponding sections below.

Rejections of Claims 1-9 and 11

As amended, the method of claim 1 includes positioning a peripheral input device, and between the peripheral input device and the computer, winding up an electrical cord to retract slack in the electrical cord as the peripheral input device is positioned. A possible advantage of this arrangement is that an off-the-shelf mouse may be connected to a computer, and any slack in the line may be retracted as the mouse is moved. Of course, other advantages and/or embodiments are possible.

In contrast, Ueda discloses a mouse that has an interior winding reel to wind up a cable when a switch (of the mouse) that is associated with this reel is depressed. However, Ueda neither teaches nor suggests winding up an electrical cord between a peripheral input device and a computer, and thus, cannot achieve at least some of the advantages of the method of claim 1. Thus, for at least these reasons, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 1 and claims 2-9 and 11 that depend therefrom.

Rejections of Claims 12-16

As amended, the method of claim 12 includes winding up an electrical cord between a peripheral input device and a computer to retract slack in the electrical cord as the peripheral input device is moved. See discussion of claim 1 above. In particular, Ueda neither teaches nor suggests the winding act of claim 12, and for at least this reason, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the § 103 rejections of claim 12 and claims 13-16 that depend therefrom.

Rejections of Claims 17-21

As amended, the method of claim 17 includes positioning a mouse and between the mouse and a computer, winding up an electrical cord to retract slack in the electrical cord as the mouse is positioned. As this act is neither taught nor suggested by Ueda, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 17 and claims 18-21 that depend therefrom.

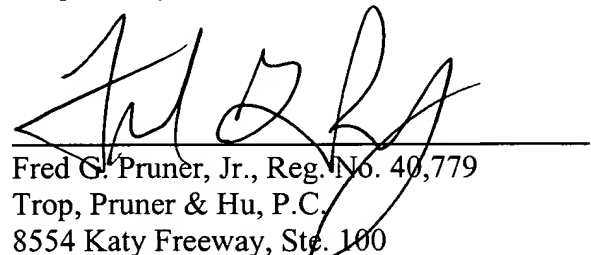
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the Assignee requests withdrawal of the rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance. The Patent Office is authorized to charge any additional costs associated with this amendment and/or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MICE-0060-00-US).

10/13/00
Date



Respectfully submitted,


Fred G. Pruner, Jr., Reg. No. 40,779
Trop, Pruner & Hu, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Ste. 100
Houston, TX 77024
713/468-8880
713/468-8883 [fax]